

**Town of Arlington**  
**Transportation Advisory Committee**

Minutes of 3/27/07, 7:15 to 10:00 PM, Town Hall Annex 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener

**Members and Associates Present :** Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Teresa DeBenedictis, Jeff Maxtutis, Erik Moore, Howard Muise, Chuck Pappas, Michael Rademacher, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Laura Wiener.

1. Public Comments.
  - Arthur Largenton of 6 Webster Street, and Bill Beavers of 64 Franklin Street came to the meeting to check on the status of parking changes on Franklin and Palmer Streets. Ed reported that the Board of Selectmen approved a change to one side of the street parking. Teresa stated that DPW has no preference for which side. Public Safety will make the determination of which side, and then changes will follow soon thereafter.
2. Administration.
  - January minutes approved unanimously.
  - Outstanding Voted Actions
    - Overgrown brush at Thorndike Field—Howard will draft a letter from Board of Selectmen asking abutters if its ok to cut back trees at entrance to parking lot. Boundaries of Town owned property are unclear.
  - Library Way Crosswalk—Teresa will look at trimming vegetation.
  - 1395 Mass. Ave. Wheelchair ramp—Teresa will check on status.
3. Mass. Ave. Corridor Phase 1. Working Group interviewed 4 consultants, chose Fay Spofford & Thorndike, working with Waterfield Design Group. Laura and Kevin are working on a contract, but also need to meet (tomorrow) with Mass. Highway on reimbursement contract. Hope to get started as soon as all contract issues are resolved.
4. DPW Construction Plans for coming year. Sidewalks focusing on Gray Street, and Spring Street from Highland to Jason. Forest Street total reconstruction is scheduled for this year. Looking into cost of making George Street a public way.
5. Warrant Article Update.
  - Zipcar—ARB voted to recommend in favor of zoning change to allow shared vehicle parking in certain zones
  - Compact Car Parking—ARB voted to recommend in favor of reducing the number of compact car spaces allowed from 40% to 20% (by special permit), and increasing the size of a compact car parking space from 7.5' x 15' to 8' x 16'.
6. Symmes 100% drawings. Elisabeth reviewed the 100% drawings and found some inconsistencies with TAC recommendations. Subcommittee will meet on Thursday 3/29). (Scott, Jeff, Elisabeth, Ed, Kevin O'Brien)
7. George Street Eminent Domain Warrant Article. Jeff met with Finance Committee regarding funding to make this a public way. Question whether it would need to be widened to 20' from current 16' to meet standards. Alternative would be for owners to donate only 4' for sidewalk. Other options needing research are an access easement, or

public sidewalk on a private way. Jeff is talking to the abutters on 4/4, and will return to Fin Comm.

8. Downing Square Update. Elisabeth reported on recommendations. Measurements indicate that an additional parking space would be gained on Lowell Street by the addition of the proposed bump-out on Park Avenue. Exploring possibility of changing traffic flow of Park to Bow, cars to turn right onto Lowell, then left onto Bow. Would require some land taking. At signal at Park/Mass. Ave, could have 2 true lanes from Park Ave, and/or signal timing modifications during the morning peak to reduce queues at Square. Capital Budget includes Downing Square improvements in 2009 for \$300,000.
9. Green Line Extension. Letter commenting on MPO document "Journey to 2030" submitted on behalf of TAC in support of extending Green Line to Route 16. Project is currently listed as terminating in Ball Square, Somerville. A Public Working Group is being formed by the Somerville Transportation Planner, Lisa Lepore, and will probably be formed this summer.
10. Irving/Pleasant Status. BSC couldn't get into the traffic control box. Have since contacted Republic.
11. Ravine/Academy/ Irving Parking. Following up on a complaint from Ravine Street resident about users of Parmenter School, which has no off street parking. Laura reported on Parmenter parking usage. Roughly 40 spaces are needed for staff parking. ACC rents 6 off street parking spaces. In addition, daily drop off and pick up by roughly 170 families. Most of Irving is single side of the street parking. Parking Working Group will make a recommendation on changes to street parking in the area. Lease renewals are up next year. Parking should be considered.
12. Herbert Road. Request by Officer Rateau to look at parking on this street running off of Lake Street, near Hardy School and running toward Alewife. This is a narrow street with what appears to be commuter parking on both sides, making it difficult to pass. Scott ~~exchanged e-mails~~ with him, and will follow up.
13. Safe Routes to Schools. State funding of \$1.3 million/year for all of Mass. Funds can be used for appropriate construction projects for Arlington.
14. School Zones. Dallin School—George Street (public part only) has 2 sided parking, blocking bus passage. Dallin as an abutter can make request for single side of the street parking. Jeff will measure it and check with Fire Department. Also, there is a small piece of sidewalk missing on Florence Street opposite the school. Would like to get it into the pipeline. Teresa will do so.
15. Crosswalks on Warren. Scott reported that pedestrian counts during the AM peak period will be done at Franklin and Rawson to assess the need for marked crosswalks.
16. Town News. Summer Street Reconstruction starting up again. Peter Lento is attending weekly meetings for the Town.
17. Meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Deleted: spoke

Handouts:

Ed's Meeting Package:

TAC Annual Report for 2006, Memos from Marie Krepelka, "Request for Residential handicap Parking— 13 Fairmont Street", Memo from Chief Fred Ryan, same subject, Email from Richard McLaughlin re. Reassignment— Belmont Police Department, Email from Corey Rateau, RE. Parking Conditions—Herbert Road, Active/Planned TAC Projects (3/27/07), Outstanding Voted Actions, 3/27/07, Current Minor Project Rotation List (3/27/07), Board of Selectmen Requests (3/27/07), Parking Transportation Articles, 2007 Town Meeting Warrant

Elisabeth—"Excerpted from: Symmes Special Permit"

Laura – Comment Letter, Journey to 2030, dated March 26, 2007.